

Additionally software 66 therein includes operating system such as preferably Microsoft Windows or other conventional operating system, Internet browser software for accessing and communicating with world-wide web URL sites, as well as innovative instruction code and any related firmware or circuitry/equipment for analyzing and/or processing data according to preferred embodiment one or more of following functional modules, as described further herein: network and data communications 161, object and map database structure 161, object movement processing 163, security management 164, electronic transaction processing 165, diagnosis and/or corrective tool 166, performance report updater 167, and visual object analyzer 168.

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Such modules are generally user customizable and adaptable according to particular need for object surveillance. Further, such modules may be combined into common seamless programs or partitioned into multiple distinct cooperating program components. Moreover, such modules reside actually, in whole or in part, in controller 6, associated storage peripheral device, or other processing machine or other such controller coupled thereto or accessible through network 6. Additionally, to improve program performance, one or more of such modules may be omitted or uninstalled from controller. Furthermore, modules in software 66 may be provided in layered or hierarchical arrangement. In this manner, low-level core functionality is provided by database structure 162, object movement module 163, visual analysis module 168 and object diagnosis tool 166, and next-level functionality is provided by security module 164, communication module 161, transaction module 165, and report module 167.

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Preferably, browser software functions according to commercially available browser product such as, e.g., Netscape Navigator or Microsoft Explorer, or any other functionally equivalent means for accessing Internet, intranet or other conventional or proprietary LAN/WAN website, network node or IP address.

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Controller 6 or other user selection and viewing of desired objects 2 to be monitored are facilitated by invoking or clicking on one or more websites, address or corresponding graphical hot-link icons provided or updated by target unit 4. Controller 6

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